



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING


RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

May 26, 2015

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Michael P. Flanagan, Chairman 

SUBJECT: Approval of Criteria for Title I MI Excel Statewide System of Support, Program Evaluation Grant

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) annually receives funds through the Title I Elementary and Secondary Education Act to help support the Statewide System of Support (SSoS) to Title I schools that have been identified as having the greatest need for assistance in improving student achievement. Federal legislation requires each state to establish a statewide system of support for local educational agencies and schools receiving Title I funds to increase the opportunity for all students to meet the state's academic content and achievement standards.

The Michigan SSoS, developed through the Office of Education Improvement and Innovation, is implemented through various partnerships. The evaluation grant will provide technical support to the MDE MI Excel leadership and MI Excel partner organizations in measuring the implementation and impact of rapid turnaround strategies and the use of other program components (e.g., Surveys of Enacted Curriculum, Intervention Specialists).

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the criteria for the Title I MI Excel Statewide System of Support, Program Evaluation Grant as described in the attachment to the Superintendent's memorandum dated May 26, 2015.

Attachment

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MICHIGAN STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Criteria for Title I MI Excel Statewide System of Support, Program Evaluation Grant

The State Board of Education has adopted as its mission "All students graduate ready for careers, college, and community."

To the extent possible, all grant criteria and grant awards will serve to further attain the above goal.

SBE MISSION, POLICIES, AND PROGRAMS THAT THESE CRITERIA SUPPORT

This grant supports the MDE's Priority 1 in the 2013-2015 State Board of Education/Michigan Department of Education Mission and Priorities approved June 17, 2014, which states:

MDE Priority 1: "Close achievement gaps in reading and math, with an initial focus on African-American young men for whom data show are Michigan's persistently lowest achieving student group."

PURPOSE / BACKGROUND OF GRANT

Type of Grant Program:

- | | | |
|---|---|----------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New | <input type="checkbox"/> Continuing | <input type="checkbox"/> Formula |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Competitive | <input type="checkbox"/> Legislatively Designated | |

The purpose is twofold. First, the MDE and MI Excel leadership seeks to implement a live, coherent data system to continually measure and evaluate implementation of the Statewide System of Support (SSoS). Rather than static longitudinal studies, the MDE seeks the ability to continuously assess implementation, impact, and fidelity in its coherent approach to building adult capacity and providing technical expertise and support to Michigan's Title I Priority and Focus schools.

The second purpose of the grant is to expand and enhance Michigan's SSoS and technical assistance for Title I schools with the greatest need to improve student achievement. Professional development, technical assistance, and data driven decision-making for educators and administrators are key components of this initiative, as well as increased capacity, professional development, and technical assistance for targeted populations (i.e., African-American young men, high schools, alternative education, special education, limited English proficiency).

CRITERIA

Date criteria were last approved: N/A

Source of Criteria:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A. Federal Law, Rules or Regulation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C. Proposed by Staff |
| <input type="checkbox"/> B. State Law or Rules | <input type="checkbox"/> D. Defined in MDE's Approved Grant Proposal to the Funder |

The main criteria upon which subgrantees will be selected are the following:

Federal legislation, the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Title I, Section 1117, requires the following:

- Each state shall establish a SSoS for local agencies and schools receiving Title I funds to increase the opportunity for all students to meet the state's academic content and achievement standards.
- The SSoS shall provide support and assistance to local educational agencies with Title I Priority and Focus Schools.

Federal legislation, the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Title I, Section 1003, requires the following:

- The state must reserve a portion of its Title I funds to carry out the state's responsibilities, including implementation of the SSoS.
- The State educational agency, in allocating funds to local educational agencies under this section, shall give priority to local educational agencies that:
 - Serve the lowest-achieving schools.
 - Demonstrate the greatest need for such funds.
 - Demonstrate the strongest commitment to ensuring that such funds are used to enable the lowest-achieving schools to meet the progress goals in school improvement plans under Section 1116.
- The State education agency that receives a grant award under this subsection may reserve not more than five percent of such grant funds for administration, evaluation, and technical assistance expenses.

The MDE seeks an independent program evaluator to provide the technical expertise needed to create the following deliverables, as proposed by staff:

- Data points that are aligned to MI Excel Theory of Action and the Blue Print for Rapid Turnaround.
- Electronic dashboard for data displays.
- Protocols for data collection.
- Protocols for data analysis.
- Data report templates.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS AND TARGET POPULATION SERVED

The MDE is requesting proposals from qualified intermediate school districts, regional educational service agencies, Educational Services Agency or consortia thereof, universities, educational research or support organizations, other entities, or partnerships thereof, with the capacity to provide the required deliverables, and complying with all terms and conditions described in the Request For Proposals.

The target population to be served are students in the lowest achieving schools (i.e., High school, African-American young men, alternative education, special education, and limited English proficiency) that are attending schools identified as a Title I Priority or Focus school.

TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE

The current award for 2015 is \$250,000.

STATUTE

Title I, Part A, Sections 1003, 1116, and 1117 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

OFFICE ADMINISTERING GRANT / PROGRAM CONTACT

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